

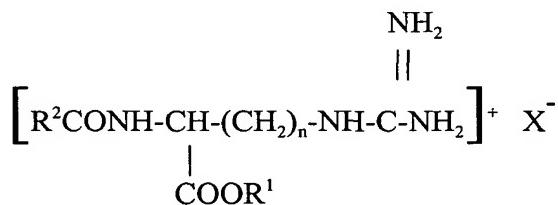
## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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1. An orally consumable film composition for delivering antiplaque and breath freshening agents to the oral cavity which rapidly dissolves or disintegrates when applied in the oral cavity, the composition being comprised of a homogeneous mixture of a water soluble or dispersible film forming polymer and an antibacterial ester having the formula

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where  $\text{R}^1$  is an alkyl chain of 1 to 8 carbon atoms, and  $\text{R}^2$  is an alkyl chain of 6 to 30 carbon atoms and  $\text{X}$  is an anion.

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2. The film composition of claim 1 wherein the polymer is an hydroxyalkyl cellulose.
3. The film composition of claim 2 wherein the hydroxyalkylcellulose is hydroxymethylpropyl cellulose.
- 25 4. The film composition of claim 1 wherein the water dispersible polymer is present at a concentration of about 10 to about 60% by weight.
5. The film composition of claim 1 wherein the antibacterial ester is present in the film at a concentration of about 0.05 to about 25% by weight.
- 30 6. The film composition of claim 1 the antibacterial is an arginine derivative compound.
7. The film composition of claim 1 wherein the arginine derivative compound is the hydrochloride salt of ethyl lauoryl arginine.
- 35 8. The film composition of claim 1 wherein the film also contains an antiplaque metal salt.
9. The film composition of claim 8 wherein the metal salt is zinc gluconate.